

NAME:

Movie / Music Review

Congratulations! You have landed one of the most coveted jobs on the market today. You are getting paid to give your opinion!

That's right, you're a movie and music reviewer for a weekly magazine called *The Good Stuff*. Your latest work assignment is to write a review of a movie or an album of music of your choice. This means, you need to sit down and enjoy a movie (at least 1hr. long) or an album of music (at least 30 min. long) and write a 1-page review for the magazine.

Important details:

1. The audience of *The Good Stuff* consists mostly of teen readers between the ages of 13 and 18. Make sure you keep the interests of your audience in mind.
2. Your review should be at least 300 words in length.
3. Decorate your review with colors and pictures, printed and/or drawn, like a magazine page.
4. Your reviews will be put up on walls or bulletin boards in the classroom/school, so make sure you are doing your best work.
5. Here are some suggestions to get started writing:
 - What is your overall impression of the movie/album?
 - What are the strengths and weaknesses of the movie/album?
 - Describe some key scenes or songs.
 - Give it a rating out of 10 and explain your reasons for your rating.
 - Who would you recommend it to? Why?

Hackers stole 5.6 million US fingerprints – more than estimated

Daily News Article — Posted on September 29, 2015



*NOTE: The U.S. **Office of Personnel Management (OPM)** is an independent agency of the United States government that manages the civil service of the federal government.*

(by Jose Pagliery, CNN) — On Wednesday, the **U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM)** said hackers stole 5.6 million fingerprints it had on file. That's significantly higher than the agency's original estimate of 1.1 million fingerprints.

This is extremely sensitive information that poses an immediate danger to American spies and undercover law enforcement agents.

As an OPM spokesman told CNNMoney in July: “It’s across federal agencies. It’s everybody.”

Hackers now have a gigantic database of American government employee fingerprints which can be used to positively identify the true identities of those employees.

Anyone with these records could check to see if a diplomat at a U.S. embassy is secretly an employee of an American intelligence agency. That person could then be targeted for arrest or assassination.

That’s particularly alarming, given that U.S. Intelligence Director James Clapper says China is the number one suspect behind the hack.

China and the United States are major trade partners and — for the most part — allies. But the world’s two superpowers are also butting heads.

America is solidifying its influence in southeastern Asia, even as China — on the rise both politically and economically — is expanding its influence in Africa, South America and the Pacific.

In a statement Wednesday, the personnel agency said experts from the Department of Homeland Security, FBI, spy agencies and the U.S. military are meeting to figure out “potential ways adversaries could misuse fingerprint data now and in the future.”

One former CIA officer told CNNMoney he worries that details of his secret past is now in the hands of the Chinese government.

To a lesser extent, there’s also a concern that 5.6 million people can no longer rely on their fingerprints as a security mechanism. This is a problem, given that smartphones and buildings are increasingly using biometric scanners to grant access.

OPM said that “the ability to misuse fingerprint data is limited. However, this probability could change over time as technology evolves.”

Hackers stole federal personnel data on 21.5 million people, including federal employees, contractors, and in some cases their friends and family (because of background checks). That includes Social Security numbers.

But cybersecurity experts say the fingerprints could be one of the worst aspects of the theft. If the hack was indeed committed by foreign government spies, this information isn't likely to end up on the black market for identity thieves.

Its purpose is to better spy on America — by blackmailing individuals or outing their true identities.

Questions

1. The first paragraph of a news article should answer the questions who, what, where and when. List the who, what, where and when of this news item. (NOTE: The remainder of a news article provides details on the why and/or how.)
2. Why is this theft so concerning? (What danger does it pose to the affected employees?) Be specific.
3. Who is behind the cyber theft?
4. How is the government responding to this massive cyber crime, according to OPM?
5. a) Why are former intelligence ops concerned?

b) What problem does the theft pose for all whose fingerprints were stolen?

6. a) What reassurance has OPM given to those whose fingerprints were stolen?

b) Why might this not be so reassuring?

7. Chinese President Xi made a state visit to Washington last week including a state dinner with President Obama at the White House:

- On Friday, President Obama announced that he and Chinese President Xi Jinping had reached a “common understanding” on steps to curb cyber spying and agreed that neither government would conduct economic espionage in cyberspace.
- “I raised, once again, our rising concerns about growing cyber threats to American companies and American citizens. I indicated that it has to stop,” Obama told reporters at a joint news conference, with Xi standing at his side. “Today I can announce that our two countries reached a common understanding on the way forward.”
- The White House said the two leaders agreed to create a senior expert group to further discuss cyber issues, and a high-level group to talk about how to fight cyber crime that will meet by the end of 2015 and twice a year after that.

a) What do you think of this suggestion? Explain your answer.

b) Are you reassured by President Obama’s agreement with President Xi? Explain your answer.

8. Watch the news report under “Resources” below. What now? What approach do you think the U.S. should take with China?

Background

- OPM said hackers were able to steal the fingerprints of 5.6 million people, up from the 1.1 million estimate it offered more than a month ago. More than 20 million people lost their records as part of the breach, and OPM’s new estimate means that roughly one-quarter of all those affected lost fingerprint data, in addition to information about their health, financial history and families.
- **The fingerprint records were collected as part of background checks conducted since at least 2000 for some of the most sensitive government posts, including law enforcement, military, foreign service and judicial positions.**
- Security analysts have said the loss of fingerprint records could be a nightmare for some U.S. officials, particularly intelligence and military officers who are used to operating covertly and try to avoid leaving any trace of their actions.
- The cyberattack at OPM was one of the largest government breaches in U.S. history.
- The U.S. government has offered limited identity-theft protection to the more than 21.5 million people whose records were stolen as part of the OPM breach.
- The theft and the government’s uneven response sparked criticism from Republicans and Democrats that more should have been done to protect the records. The outcry became so severe – particularly as word spread that the breach was much worse than expected – that OPM’s director, Katherine Archuleta, resigned in July.
- The agency is now led by acting director Beth Cobert. (from a Sept. 23 [WSJ report](#))

You Are Now Entering the Human Heart

by Janet Frame

I looked at the notice. I wondered if I had time before my train left Philadelphia for Baltimore in one hour. The heart, ceiling high, occupied one corner of the large exhibition hall, and from wherever you stood in the hall, you could hear it beating, *thum-thump-thum-thump*. It was a popular exhibit, and sometimes, when there were too many children about, the entrance had to be roped off, as the children loved to race up and down the blood vessels and match their cries to the heart's beating. I could see that the heart had already been punished for the day—the floor of the blood vessel was worn and dusty, the chamber walls were covered with marks, and the notice “You Are Now Taking the Path of a Blood Cell Through the Human Heart” hung askew. I wanted to see more of the Franklin Institute and the Natural Science Museum across the street, but a journey through the human heart would be fascinating. Did I have time?

Later. First, I would go across the street to the Hall of North America, among the bear and the *bison*, and catch up on American *flora* and *fauna*.

I made my way to the Hall. More children, sitting in rows on canvas chairs. An elementary class from a city school, under the control of an elderly teacher. A museum attendant holding a basket, and all eyes gazing at the basket.

“Oh,” I said, “is this a private lesson? Is it all right for me to be here?”

The attendant was brisk. “Surely. We’re having a lesson in snake handling,” he said. “It’s something new. Get the children young and teach them that every snake they meet is not to be killed. People seem to think that every snake has to be knocked on the head. So we’re getting them young and teaching them.”

“May I watch?” I said.

“Surely. This is a common grass snake. No harm, no harm at all. Teach the children to learn the feel of them to lose their fear.”

He turned to the teacher. “Now, Miss—Mrs.—” he said.

“Miss Aitcheson.”

He lowered his voice. “The best way to get through to the children is to start with the teacher,” he said to Miss Aitcheson. “If they see you’re not afraid, then they won’t be.”

She must be near retiring age, I thought. A city woman. Never handled a snake in her life. Her face was pale. She just managed to drag the fear from her eyes to some place in their depths, where it lurked like a dark stain. Surely the attendant and the children noticed?

“It’s harmless,” the attendant said. He’d worked with snakes for years.

Miss Aitcheson, I thought again. A city woman born and bred. All snakes were creatures to kill, to be protected from alike the rattler, the copperhead, king snake, grass snake—venom and victims. Were there not places in the South where you couldn’t go into the streets for fear of the rattlesnakes?

Her eyes faced the lighted exit. I saw her fear. The exit light blinked, hooded. The children, none of whom had ever touched a live snake, were sitting hushed, waiting for the drama to begin; one or two looked afraid as the attendant withdrew a green snake about three feet long from the basket and with a swift movement, before the teacher could protest, draped it around her neck and stepped back, admiring and satisfied.

“There,” he said to the class. “Your teacher has a snake around her neck and she’s not afraid.”

Miss Aitcheson stood rigid; she seemed to be holding her breath.

“Teacher’s not afraid, are you?” the attendant persisted. He leaned forward, pronouncing judgment on her, while she suddenly jerked her head and lifted her hands in panic to get rid of the snake. Then, seeing the children watching her, she whispered, “No, I’m not afraid. Of course not.” She looked around her.

“Of course not,” she repeated sharply.

I could see her defeat and helplessness. The attendant seemed unaware, as if his perception had grown a reptilian covering. What did she care for the campaign for the preservation and welfare of copperheads and rattlers and common grass snakes? What did she care about someday walking through the woods or the desert and deciding between killing a snake and setting it free, as if there would be time to decide, when her journey to and from school in downtown Philadelphia held enough danger to occupy her? In two years or so, she’d retire and be in that apartment by

herself and no doorman, and everyone knew what happened then, and how she'd be afraid to answer the door and to walk after dark and carry her pocketbook in the street. There was enough to think about without learning to handle and love the snakes, harmless and otherwise, by having them draped around her neck for everyone, including the children—most of all the children—to witness the outbreak of her fear.

“See, Miss Aitcheson's touching the snake. She's not afraid of it at all.”

As everyone watched, she touched the snake. Her fingers recoiled. She touched it again.

“See, she's not afraid. Miss Aitcheson can stand there with a beautiful snake around her neck and touch it and stroke it and not be afraid.”

The faces of the children were full of admiration for the teacher's bravery, and yet there was a cruelly persistent tension; they were waiting, waiting.

“We have to learn to love snakes,” the attendant said. “Would someone like to come out and stroke teacher's snake?”

Silence.

One shamefaced boy came forward. He stood petrified in front of the teacher.

“Touch it,” the attendant urged. “It's a friendly snake. Teacher's wearing it around her neck and she's not afraid.”

The boy darted his hand forward, rested it lightly on the snake, and immediately withdrew his hand. Then he ran to his seat. The children shrieked with glee.

“He's afraid,” someone said, “He's afraid of the snake.”

The attendant soothed. “We have to get used to them, you know. Grown-ups are not afraid of them, but we can understand that when you're small you might be afraid, and that's why we want you to learn to love them. Isn't that right, Miss Aitcheson? Isn't that right? Now who else is going to be brave enough to touch teacher's snake?”

Two girls came out. They stood hand in hand side by side and stared at the snake and then at

Miss Aitcheson.

I wondered when the torture would end. The two little girls did not touch the snake, but they smiled at it and spoke to it, and Miss Aitcheson smiled at them and whispered how brave they were.

“Just a minute,” the attendant said. “There’s really no need to be brave. It’s not a question of bravery. The snake is absolutely *harmless*. Where’s the bravery when the snake is harmless?”

Suddenly the snake moved around to face Miss Aitcheson and thrust its flat head toward her cheek. She gave a scream, flung up her hands, and tore the snake from her throat and threw it on the floor, and rushing across the room, she collapsed into a chair beside the Bear Cabinet.

I didn’t feel I should watch any longer. Some of the children began to laugh, some to cry. The attendant picked up the snake and nursed it. Miss Aitcheson, recovering, sat helplessly exposed by the small piece of useless torture. It was not her fault she was city-bred, her eyes tried to tell us. She looked at the children, trying in some way to force their admiration and respect; they were shut against her. She was evicted from them and from herself and even from her own fear-infested tomorrow, because she could not promise to love and preserve what she feared. She had nowhere, at that moment, but the small canvas chair by the Bear Cabinet of the Natural Science Museum.

I looked at my watch. If I hurried, I would catch the train from Thirtieth Street. There would be no time to make the journey through the human heart. I hurried out of the museum. It was freezing cold. The icebreakers would be at work on the Delaware and the Susquehanna; the mist would have risen by the time I arrived home. Yes, I would just catch the train from Thirtieth Street. The journey through the human heart would have to wait until some other time.

You Are Now Entering the Human Heart

Student Questions

1. What was the exhibit at the Franklin Institute that the narrator wanted to observe?
2. How is the exhibit at the Franklin Institute related to what happens in the rest of the story?
3. What does the narrator feel about Miss Aitcheson's life and her inner feelings? How does the narrator gain this insight?
4. Why does the attendant ignore the teacher's fears?

5. Irony is a contrast or discrepancy between appearance and reality. What is ironic about the narrator's final statement, "The journey through the human heart would have to wait?"

6. What is something you fear? Why? Have you ever been forced to confront this fear? What was the result of confronting this fear?